GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:884
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2016
Drinking Water Sources
Lakhanpal Shri Raghav

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the main source of drinking water for majority of households in the country;
(b) the percentage of population that is dependent on various sources of drinking water i.e. piped water, public tap, tubewell, protected and unprotected dug well, drain water, bottled water etc.; and
(c) the main source of water used by majority of the households in the country
for other purposes, such as cooking, bathing and hand washing etc.?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) & (c) The main sources of drinking water for majority of households in the country are hand pump/ tube well, tap water or well water along with other sources deemed fit as per geographical area of the States. Also the same source of water is used for cooking, hand washing, bathing etc. in rural areas.
(b) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject and this Ministry provides financial as well as technical assistance to achieve the objective of providing safe drinking water to all rural households. The sources of drinking water in rural areas depend on geographical terrain and thus the percentage of population dependent on such sources varies from one region to another region. All States are encouraged to strengthen piped water supply based either on ground water or safe surface water sources instead of depending other unsafe sources like well, ponds etc. As on date 19.07.2016, as per information uploaded on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), total population covered under main sources like piped water supply and hand pump and other sources is as under -
Sources of water Coverage (Nos. of population) %
Piped Water Supply(PWS)
44,44,60,889 49.28
Handpump and other sources . 45,74,62,972 51.72
Source : C-19 and C-30 of IMIS.
Total individual household connections under PWS is 2,62,75,841 connections which is 14.92 % of the total rural households.
*****